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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**CONFIDENTIAL**

TO : Mr. Robert Amory, Jr.

DATE: 14 October 60

FROM : 25X1A
[REDACTED]

Noted by DD/I

10/14/60

SUBJECT: Second Sino-Soviet Task Force (SSTF) Report to DCI

1. Here is the second Report of the SSTF. If you find it satisfactory, I would like to get it into DCI's office in time for his weekend reading. Am holding all other copies pending your approval.

2. The Task Force has been meeting once a week. Part of each session has been devoted to a rundown and analysis of recent developments. The meetings provide an opportunity for keeping all interested components of the Agency fully informed and for identifying differences in interpretation of current developments. Since all Task Force members are senior officers with considerable regular responsibilities, I have tried to limit our sessions to two hours. This places a substantial burden on the Secretariat (which is also, perforce, part time) for planning and follow-up.

3. Aside from the production of these reports the Task Force has undertaken various other projects which may be of interest to you:

a. We have just completed a comprehensive inventory of Agency studies on Sino-Soviet relations which have been published or which are now in train. A copy of this inventory is attached.

b. We are also working on a list of projects that should be undertaken. Two subcommittees have been established: one to consider short-term studies that will be of primary use to DDP and to certain components within the DDI; the other is concentrating on long-range research projects. Both subcommittees will complete their work by the end of this month at which time the Task Force as a whole will work out priorities and come to agreement on ways and means of undertaking recommended projects.

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c. We are trying to develop an effective approach to the problem of stimulating policy and operational suggestions, sifting out the most promising of them, and undertaking the necessary preliminary staff work prior to their submission for serious consideration by appropriate persons in the Agency.

d. The informal and improvised "secretariat" of the Task Force, which consists of a few people in O/NE, has been serving as a clearing house (in cooperation with OCR) for special types of information and documents dealing with Sino-Soviet problems.

4. Needless to say, we are still feeling our way. We have ambitious plans, but no illusions about the substantive, policy, or bureaucratic problems inherent in an activity of this kind.

Attachments

Sino-Soviet Inventory

DDI(retention) and DCI(forwarding) cys
of SSTF Report to DCI

-2-

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